

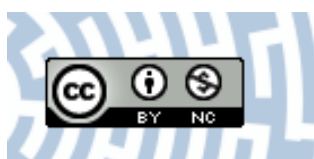


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Editor in Chief

The New Educational Review

Editor's Preface

The second number of *The New Educational Review* in 2009 is the eighteenth issue of our journal since the start of its foundation in 2003. In this issue there are mainly papers from: Poland, the Czech Republic, Turkey, Iran and Singapore, because our journal is open for presentation of scientific papers from all over the world.

In the present issue the editorial board have proposed the following subject sessions: Social Pedagogy, Special Pedagogy, Pedeutology, Technology of Education, Educational Policy, and Health Education.

The subject session "Social Pedagogy" starts with an article by Anna Nowak, which presents the problems of application of legal knowledge in social pedagogy. Ewa Wysocka shows the way in which young people experience an identity crisis. It is analyzed in terms of the self-creation problems that academic youth are confronted with. It is also an attempt to outline strategies for coping with the crisis, including adolescent rebellion, considered to be a peculiar form of dealing with the problems related to self-creation. Štefan Chudý and his co-workers focus of the outcomes of the field research they conducted into gauging the success-rates of social pedagogy students in working practice. The authors set out the results of a questionnaire-based investigation, which serves as the basis for further investigations into the development and monitoring of the skills, abilities and competences of social pedagogues in practice and in the preparation process for working in jobs in this field. The article by Karolina Walancik-Ryba presents the issues connected with the divorce regulations stipulated in the Family and Guardianship Code currently in force.

In the subject session "Special Pedagogy" Julius Sekera presents the overall design of the research carried out in institutions for re-education. This article focuses on its

first part, i.e. the management and inter-personal relationships of the staff. Further papers, which will be published in the next issues of this journal, will focus on the other areas of the research. The paper by Marian Sztuka is aimed at understanding the position of a rehabilitative ideal in the Polish prison system in relation to the dominant Western penal trends. Jacek Bleszyński discusses the results of studies on the intensity of the element of speech (in both normally developing children and children with differential illnesses and autism, divided according to the level of intensity), and analyzes the differences between simple echolalia and echolalic speech (which can be considered as a symptom characteristic of children with autism). In her article Beata Dyrda describes the process of identifying the underachievement syndrome in the group of gifted and creative pupils.

In the subject session "Pedeutology" Bill Templer discusses aspects of a narrative-based multifaceted initiative of empirical inquiry into teachers' work and lives. He centres on the teaching of English as a foreign language, but this problem can be extrapolated to a spectrum of pedeutological perspectives on teachers in any subject matter area. Engin Karadağ and Nuri Baloglu determine multiple relationships between the sense of self-efficacy and student control orientation and also between styles of copying with stress and attitudes toward the teaching profession among prospective teachers. Erhan Ertekín and his co-workers investigated whether mathematics and social sciences teacher trainees differed in terms of their epistemological beliefs and tested these differences with regard to certain variables. The article by Bronislav Pupala and Zuzana Petrová looks at the position of so-called practical and theoretical components in university teacher training study programmes. Attention is paid mainly to the area which makes it possible to distinguish university and non-university teachers' education and to the status and composition of teaching practice.

The subject session "Technology of Education" contains a contribution by Saeid Moradi who describes the process of modelling of ICT literacy and its evaluation among principals and staff in educational organizations. The results of empirical research show that ICT literacy of staff in all factors is higher and greater than that of principals.

In the subject session "Educational Policy" Jonathan W.P. Goh and Charlene H.P. Tan provide a review of educational policies launched in 1997 in Singapore and highlight how these reforms manifest salient features of marketing orientation in the Singapore educational system. The second part of their article illustrates the marketisation of education through one recent nation-wide initiative – the niche area scheme.

The subject session “Health education” contains a paper by Mirosław Kowalski, who describes television as a health value carrier.

We hope that this edition, like the previous ones, will encourage new readers not only from the Middle European countries to participate in an open international discussion. On behalf of the Editors Board I would like to invite representatives of different pedagogical sub-disciplines and related sciences to publish their texts in *The New Educational Review*.